

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL LYON

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBURG

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SUBJECT : MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 1977 : FIRST ROUND RESULTS
IN THE LYON CONSULAR DISTRICT AND PROJECTIONS FOR THE
SECOND ROUND.

REF : LYON 55 AND 56

SUMMARY: THE FIRST ROUND MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS
CONFIRMED THE EXPECTED STRONG ADVANCE OF THE LEFT AND
PRODUCED LITTLE IN THE WAY OF SURPRISES, IF NOT FOR
THE RELATIVELY STRONG EFFECT OF THE ECOLOGY GROUPS,
FORCING RUN-OFFS IN THE SECOND ROUND WHERE THESE
HAD NOT BEEN ANTICIPATED.

LYON METROPOLITAN AREA

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WHILE THE PRADELIST LISTS OF INCUMBENT MAYOR FRANCISQUE
COLLOMB SEEM SURE TO EMERGE FROM NEXT WEEK'S SECOND ROUND
WITH A SOLID MAJORITY ON THE LYON CITY COUNCIL, THE
MOST IMPORTANT NEWS IS THAT THESE LISTS HAVE BEEN FORCED
INTO RUN-OFFS IN ALL BUT COLLOMB'S OWN ARRONDISSEMENT.
THE CANDIDATURES OF JACQUES SOUSTELLE (8.3 0/0) AND
THE ECOLOGISTS (8.3 0/0) PREVENTED THE PRADELISTS

(44.3 0/0) FROM WINNING 7 OF THE 9 ARRONDISSEMENTS ON THE FIRST ROUND, BUT IN A CHANGE FROM THE TOTAL SWEEP OF THE LOUIS PRADEL FORCES IN 1971, IT APPEARS THAT THE LEFT WILL WIN IN LYON S WORKING CLASS 8TH AND 9TH DISTRICT.

VILLEURBANNE

TRUE TO THE FORM PREDICTED BY A LOCAL POLL BEOFORE THE ELECTOONS, NO ONE COULD CAPTURE VILLEURBANNE S CITY HALL ON THE 1ST ROUND BUT CHARLES HERNU EMERGED WITH A EXTREMELY STRONG HAND. ETIENNE GAGNAIRE, VILLEURBANNE S LONG TIME MAYOR, FELL FAR OFF THE PACE, GARNERING ONLY 32 0/0 OF THE VOTE WHILE THE COMMUNIST CANDIDATES OF RENE DESGRAND S UNION OF THE LEFT WERE TOTALLY ELIMINATED BY RECEIVING ONLY 26 0/0. HERNU NEEDS LESS THAN HALF OF THE FIRST ROUND COMMUNIST VOTERS TO DEFEAT GAGNAIRE AND THE ONLY QUESTIONS ARE 1) HOW ANGRY THE COMMUNIST SUPPORTERS ARE THAT NO REAL UNION OF THE LEFT WAS ACHIEVED IN VILLEURBANNE AND 2) IF THEY WILL NOW THROW THEIR SUPPORT BEHIND HERNU.

OTHER REGIONAL CAPITALS

CLERMONT-FERRAND

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INCUMBENT SOCIALIST SENATOR-MAYOR ROGER QUILLIOT WAS REELECTED WITH A MAJORITY OF ALMOST TWO-TO-ONE OVER HIS UNALIGNED OPPONENT MICHEL CANQUE.

DIJON

OUTGOING MAYOR ROBERT POUJADE, R
RPT

OUTGOING MAYOR ROBERT POUJADE
, R.P.R., WAS EASILY RETURNED TO
OFFICE BY A VOTE OF 26,655 AS COMPARED TO
19,648 FOR HIS SOCIALIST CHALLENGER.

GRENOBLE

TO EVERYONE S SURPRISE SOCIALIST MAYOR HUBERT DUBEDOUT WAS NOT REELECTED IN THE FIRST ROUND DUE TO THE STRONG SHOWING OF THE ECOLOGISTS WHO OBTAINED 9 0/0 OF THE VOTE. MAJORITY CHALLENGER JEAN-CHARLES PARIAUD RAN BETTER THAN EXPECTED (20,523 AGAINST DUBEDOUT 27,223), BUT DUBEDOUT IS FAVORED TO WIN IN THE SECOND ROUND.

MACON

AS PREDICTED, OUTGOING MAYOR LOUIS ESCANDE, REPRESENTING THE MAJORITY, WAS BADLY HURT IN HIS BID FOR REELECTION
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BY NON-ALIGNED CHALLENGER ANDRE LAPRAS. SOCIALIST MICHEL ROGNARD S STAR IS RISING AND MAY DRAW ENOUGH DISSATISFIED VOTERS FROM THE MAJORITY TO WIN IN THE SECOND ROUND.

SAINT-ETIENNE

DURABLE INCUMBENT MICHEL DURAFOR WILL FACE SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN NEXT WEEK S RUN OFF WITH COMMUNIST CHALLENGER JOSEPH SANGUEDOLCE. FINISHING AHEAD OF THE PRESENT MAYOR IN NUMBERS OF VOTES, THE CHALLENGER (45 0/0) WILL LOOK TO THE SAME SOURCE FOR VOTES AS THE INCUMBENT (43 0/0), THAT IS AMONG THE SUPPORTERS OF BERNARD FORNIER WHO GAVE THEIR CANDIDATE 8.3 0/0 OF THE VOTE. DURAFOR WILL CONSIDER HIMSELF LUCKY WITH A NARROW ESCAPE IF HE CAN CONVINCE THESE STAUNCH GAULLISTS TO SUPPORT HIM ON THE SECOND ROUND.
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